

Message Text

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TO USDEL MTN GENEVA

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ETRD, GATT

SUBJECT: U.S. CONSULTATIONS ON QUANTITATIVE RESTRIC-
--- TIONS

REFS: MTN GENEVA 5162

1. AT ITS APRIL 22-30 MEETING NONTARIFF MEASURES (NTM) SUB-
GROUP ON QUANTITATIVE RESTRICTIONS (QRS) AGREED ON PROCEDURE
OF BILATERAL OR PLURILATERAL CONSULTATIONS AND DISCUSSIONS
BETWEEN COUNTRIES MAINTAINING RESTRICTIONS AND COUNTRIES
NOTIFYING DIRECT TRADE INTEREST IN THESE RESTRICTIONS.
CONSULTATIONS WITH THIRTY-FIVE (35) COUNTRIES AGAINST WHICH
U.S. HAS SUBMITTED NOTIFICATIONS SHOULD BE HELD PRIOR TO
NEXT MEETING OF THE QR SUBGROUP, PRESENTLY SCHEDULED TO
BEGIN WEEK OF OCTOBER 27.

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2. OF 35 COUNTRIES CONCERNED, U.S. DEL SHOULD, TO THE
EXTENT POSSIBLE, SCHEDULE PRIOR TO SUMMER RECESS BILATERAL
CONSULTATIONS WITH FOLLOWING: BOLIVIA, COLOMBIA, DOMINICAN
REPUBLIC, IRAN, JAMAICA, KENYA, NIGERIA, PANAMA, AND

TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO. SELECTION OF THESE COUNTRIES DOES NOT IMPLY ANY U.S. PRIORITIES ON PARTICULAR QRS. THESE ARE COUNTRIES WHERE CURRENTLY AVAILABLE INFORMATION IS RELATIVELY COMPLETE. IN ADDITION, IT IS ASSUMED THAT FEW OTHER COUNTRIES WILL REQUEST CONSULTATIONS WITH THEM AND THEREFORE IT SHOULD BE RELATIVELY EASY TO CONDUCT CONSULTATIONS AT AN

EARLY DATE. SUCH CONSULTATIONS SHOULD PROVIDE A TEST RUN FOR SUBSEQUENT CONSULTATIONS. IF IT IS NOT POSSIBLE HOLD CONSULTATIONS PRIOR TO SUMMER RECESS, U.S. DEL SHOULD TRY TO FIX MEETING DATES AS EARLY IN SEPTEMBER AS FEASIBLE.

3. FOR REMAINDER OF 35 COUNTRIES, U.S. DEL SHOULD ATTEMPT TO FIX MEETING DATES THROUGHOUT MONTH OF SEPTEMBER, AND, IF NECESSARY, EARLY OCTOBER. LIST OF TENTATIVE DATES AGREED TO SHOULD BE FORWARDED AS EARLY AS POSSIBLE.

4. IN VIEW OF FACT THAT NOTIFICATIONS REGARDING U.S. RESTRICTIONS JUST RECEIVED (REFTEL) AND MORE EXPECTED TO FOLLOW, WE PREFER CONSULTATIONS REGARDING U.S. RESTRICTIONS BE DEFERRED UNTIL FALL PERIOD WHEN ALL NOTIFICATIONS AGAINST THE U.S. HAVE BEEN SUBMITTED; POSSIBILITY WILL EXIST FOR DISCUSSING THESE TOGETHER; AND POSITION PAPERS CAN BE PROVIDED FOR U.S. DEL.

5. IN U.S. VIEW CONSULTATION EXERCISE SHOULD LEAD TO EXCHANGE OF IDEAS ON POSSIBLE SOLUTIONS TO EXISTING QR PROBLEMS. CONSULTATIONS SHOULD BRING OUT THE ATTITUDE AND OBJECTIVES OF OTHER COUNTRIES WITH RESPECT TO NEGOTIATIONS ON QRS AND SHOULD LEAVE IMPRESSION THAT U.S. BELIEVES ALL COUNTRIES REGARDLESS OF THEIR STATE OF DEVELOPMENT SHOULD BE PREPARED TO MAKE SOME CONTRIBUTION TO THE REMOVAL OR REDUCTION OF QRS, BEARING IN MIND THE PROVISIONS OF THE TOKYO DECLARATION RELATING TO LDC CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE NEGOTIATIONS.

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6. DURING CONSULTATIONS WITH COUNTRIES LISTED IN PARA 2, THE U.S. DEL SHOULD:

(A) BE GUIDED BY INFORMATION CONTAINED IN NTB DATA BASE AND VERIFY ACCURACY OF THIS INFORMATION CONCERNING FOREIGN QRS; ADDITIONAL MATERIAL ON AGRICULTURAL RESTRICTIONS BEING SENT SEPARATELY.

(B) REQUEST EACH COUNTRY TO EXPLAIN RATIONALE FOR MAINTENANCE OF EACH RESTRICTION AND DEGREE OF IMPORTANCE IT ATTACHES TO EACH MEASURE; FOR GATT MEMBERS, REQUEST

IDENTIFICATION OF GATT PROVISIONS UNDER WHICH EACH RESTRIC-

TION IS MAINTAINED.

(C) SHOULD ATTEMPT TO DETERMINE TO WHAT EXTENT EACH COUNTRY WOULD BE WILLING TO ELIMINATE OR MODIFY ITS QRS, AND HOW THIS MIGHT BE DONE. HOWEVER, U.S. DEL SHOULD AVOID DISCUSSION OF SPECIFIC REQUESTS AND OFFERS.

(D) BE GUIDED BY STATEMENTS CONTAINED IN THE COVER NOTE ACCOMPANYING THE U.S. NOTIFICATIONS AND TSC PAPER 75-14 FOR FURTHER ELABORATION OF U.S. POSITION.

7. IN VIEW OF THE LIMITED TIME AVAILABLE FOR THESE CONSULTATIONS PRIOR TO SUMMER RECESS, IT NOT EXPECTED THAT WASHINGTON AGENCIES WILL BE ABLE TO ASSIST AT MEETINGS. THEREFORE U.S. DEL SHOULD REPORT FULLY ON THE RESULTS OF ANY CONSULTATIONS AS THEY ARE COMPLETED. FYI. WE EXPECT AGENCY REPRESENTATIVES WILL BE ABLE ASSIST CONSULTATIONS IN FALL. END FYI. INGERSOLL

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